## Legislation.

13. The most important legislative measure under consideration is that for amending the Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation, V of 1071. Towards the close of 1104, a round table conference of the representatives of the *jenmies* and the *kudiyans* was held under the presidency of the then Dewan, and as a result, an amending Bill was introduced in the Legislative Council. The Bill was referred to a Select Committee, which reported in due course. When the second reading of the Bill was taken up, the Council agreed to refer the Bill back to another Committee. This Committee was appointed to examine and report, after taking evidence, whether, in respect of *kanapattam* lands, an arrangement can reasonably be made that the *pattam* of such lands be taken to be the same as the *pattam* fixed for land revenue purposes, and out of that *pattam*, whatever is left after deducting the Sirkar tax, be taken to be the *jenmies'* due in lieu of all and every one of their claims and, if any such arrangement can reasonably be made, to draft and submit the necessary legislative provisions for the same. The Committee has toured the State in three batches for collecting the necessary evidence.

## Trade and Shipping.

14. The decline in the total value of external trade noticed in 1105 was appreciable in 1106. The total value, which had fallen from Rs 21·13 crores in 1104 to Rs. 20·65 crores in 1105, went down to Rs. 17·31 crores in 1106. Exports formed 56 per cent. and imports 44 per cent of the total volume of trade. The fall in the value was due partly to a fall in the quantities exported and partly to the unprecedented fall in prices. The percentage of sea-borne trade to the total trade again fell from 31·6 to 28·73, but there was no fall in the tonnage of vessels that called at the Travancore ports. Government have sanctioned an estimate for Rs. 83,600 for special repairs to the Alleppey pier; and the construction at the Trivandrum port of an open godown has been sanctioned to provide adequate storage facilities to importers, particularly of paddy and rice. A survey of the Alleppey Roads was conducted at this Government's cost, by H. M. I. S. *Palinurus* in the first half of March 1931. An area of 15 square miles was surveyed and no material change, it was reported, was found in the depth of water in the Roads.

## Cochin Harbour.

15. In September 1931, a conference was held in Madras under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble the Law Member to the Madras Government to discuss the estimate prepared by the Harbour Engineer-in-Chief for carrying out the Fourth Stage works at Cochin. The Dewan took part in the conference along with the Chief Engineer and the Principal Port Officer, and a representative of the Travancore Chamber of Commerce and of the Indian merchants at Alleppey. Other outstanding questions relating to the development of the port, such as the definition

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